

b) a plurality of closed loop members slidably removable from said wristband for exchanging with the closed loop members of other ones of said wristbands; [and]

c) each of said plurality of closed loop members having a surface with first indicia thereon for exchanging with the closed loop members of other ones of said wristbands having second, third and fourth indicia thereon; and

d) said first indicia has a design selected from the group consisting of stars, stripes, hearts, flowers, insects and animals.

2 (Amended). A friendship bracelet in accordance with Claim 1, [wherein said] further including an outer fabric material [is] being selected from the group consisting of cotton, rayon, nylon, silk, linen, polyester and combinations thereof.

3 (Amended). A friendship bracelet in accordance with Claim 1, wherein said [inner] stretchable elastic material is selected from the group consisting of elasticized plastics, rubber, plasticized rubber, elasticized fabric materials, and combinations thereof.

4 (Amended). A friendship bracelet in accordance with Claim 1, wherein said releasable closure means are selected from the group consisting of snaps, clasps, hook and loop fasteners, buckle and tine members, hook members, and buttons[, and equivalents thereof].

Sub
b2
Q2
covered

9 (Amended). A friendship bracelet in accordance with Claim 1, wherein said first indicia has a color format selected from the group consisting of colors such as red, blue, green, yellow, purple, and pink [and the like].

10 (Amended). A friendship bracelet in accordance with Claim 1, wherein said first indicia has indicia symbols selected from the group consisting of letters, initials, names, numbers, insignias, emblems, and corporate logos [and the like].

Q3

12 (Amended). A method of using the friendship bracelet of Claim 1, wherein said friendship bracelet includes a wristband having thereon a plurality of closed loop members with first indicia thereon, wherein the first indicia has a design selected from the group consisting of stars, stripes, hearts, flowers, insects, and animals; and having releasable closure means; comprising the following steps:

a) opening said releasable closure means and slidably removing from said wristband one of said plurality of closed loop members having said first indicia thereon;

b) exchanging said removed one of said plurality of closed loop members with the closed loop member from another one of said friendship bracelets having second indicia thereon;

c) sliding the closed loop member from said another one of said friendship bracelets onto said wristband; and

d) closing said closure means to retain said wristband on the wrist of the wearer having closed loop members thereon with said first and second indicia thereon.

b3
cont.
P3
Cairns
13 (Amended). A friendship necklace ~~for wearing on the neck,~~
comprising:

a) a neckband formed of [an outer fabric material and
an inner] a band and including releasable closure means for opening
and closing said neckband; ✓

b) a plurality of closed loop members slidably
removable from said neckband for exchanging with the closed loop
members of other ones of said neckbands; [and]

c) each of said plurality of closed loop members having
a surface with first indicia thereon for exchanging with the closed
loop members of other ones of said neckbands having second, third
and fourth indicia thereon; and

d) said first indicia has a design selected from the
group consisting of stars, stripes, hearts, flowers, insects and
animals.

Sub
b4
P4
17 (Amended). A friendship necklace in accordance with Claim
13, wherein said releasable closure means are selected from the
group consisting of snaps, clasps, hook and loop fasteners, buckle
and tine members, hooking members, and buttons[, and equivalents
thereof].

Sub
b5
P5
22 (Amended). A friendship necklace in accordance with Claim
12, wherein said first indicia has a color format selected from the
group consisting of colors such as red, blue, green, yellow,
purple, and pink [and the like].

*As
count
b5
cons*

23 (Amended). A friendship necklace in accordance with Claim 13, wherein said first indicia has indicia symbols selected from the group consisting of letters, initials, names, numbers, insignias, emblems, and corporate logos [and the like].

*Sub
b6*

Please add Claims 25 and 26.

25. A friendship bracelet in accordance with Claim 1, wherein said first to fourth indicia on each of said closed loop members on said friendship bracelet are used for indicating friendships within a group or clique and to identify members of that friendship group of clique.

26. A friendship necklace in accordance with Claim 13, wherein said first to fourth indicia on each of said closed loop members on said friendship necklace are used for indicating friendships within a group or clique and to identify members of that friendship group or clique.

Please cancel Claims 8 and 21.

REMARKS

The rejection of Claims 1 through 24, as being unpatentable based upon Doppenschmitt '703 in view of Knodel '833 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully traversed.

The Doppenschmitt prior art patent does not consider the use and application of its beaded article of jewelry as a friendship bracelet with exchangeable elements, as Doppenschmitt's beaded bracelet would not function as a friendship bracelet with exchangeable elements due to its different structure, wherein the beads are not removable.